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CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a nerve disorder mediated by nucleus pulposus in a mammal in need of such treatment wherein said nerve disorder mediated by nucleus pulposus is caused by the liberation of TNF- α and compounds triggered by the liberation of or presence of TNF- α comprising the step of administering a TNF- α inhibitor, wherein said TNF- α inhibitor is a metalloproteinase inhibitor excluding methylprednisolone ~~for the treatment of nerve disorders mediated by nucleus pulposus in said to a mammal in need of such treatment wherein said nerve disorder mediated by nucleus pulposus is caused by the liberation of TNF- α and compounds triggered by the liberation of or presence of TNF- α by~~ thereby inhibiting TNF- α and treating said disorder.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

E¹ 8 Claim ~~3~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is a nerve root injury.

Claim 4. (Canceled)

15 Claim ~~5~~. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein said nerve root injury ~~is nerve disorder presents as~~ sciatica.

2 Claim ~~6~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is human.

9 Claim ~~7~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~3~~ 8, wherein the mammal is human.

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Claim 8. (Canceled)

¹⁵
16 Claim ~~9~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the mammal is human.

3 Claim ~~10~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered systemically.

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10 Claim ~~11~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered systemically.

Claim 12. (Canceled)

¹⁵
17 Claim ~~13~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered systemically.

E1
Cont
4 Claim ~~14~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered orally.

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11 Claim ~~15~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered orally.

Claim 16. (Canceled)

¹⁵
18 Claim ~~17~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered orally.

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⁵ Claim ~~18~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

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~~12~~ Claim ~~19~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

Claim 20. (Canceled)

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~~19~~ Claim ~~21~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

⁶ Claim ~~22~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intravenously.

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^{E1}
^{Cont}
~~13~~ Claim ~~23~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intravenously.

Claim 24. (Canceled)

¹⁵
~~20~~ Claim ~~25~~. (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~8~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intravenously.

Claims 26-48. (Canceled)

~~21~~ Claim ~~49~~. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is caused by a herniated disc.

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²¹
~~23~~ Claim ~~50~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intravenously.

²¹
~~23~~ Claim ~~51~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered systemically.

²¹
~~24~~ Claim ~~52~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered orally.

²¹
~~26~~ Claim ~~53~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein the mammal is human.

²¹
~~26~~ Claim ~~54~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein the TNF- α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

E
Cont
⁷ ~~27~~ Claim ~~55~~. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder involves pain.

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¹⁴ ~~27~~ Claim ~~56~~. (New) The method of claim ~~1~~, wherein said nerve disorder involves pain.

²¹
²⁷ Claim ~~57~~. (New) The method of claim ~~49~~, wherein said nerve disorder involves pain.
